

**Questions received from potential respondents to the Vermont Electric Generator Database RFP:**

as of January 26, 2015

Q. Does the work need to be performed in Vermont? Are on-site visits required?

A. No. The work does, however, need to be performed in the United States.

Q. The RFP uses the term “developer.” What do you mean by that?

A. We mean an individual or company that develops or provides software that could meet the needs as identified in the RFP. We are open to responses from individuals or companies offering services or applications that might best meet our needs.

Q. What is the current tool you are using? Please provide specifications / sample

A. Prospective respondents may email [asa.hopkins@state.vt.us](mailto:asa.hopkins@state.vt.us) to request the Excel spreadsheet tool we currently use.

Q. This tool is for how many users?

A. We expect that roughly ten individuals would need to have access to enter new data or make modifications. Public demand for the site as readers is unknown, but unlikely to be high (or even moderate) on the scale of commercial websites.

Q. What are the current numbers of rows in the database and what is monthly increase in number of rows?

A. There are approximately 5000 rows in the main Excel sheet now. Each row in the spreadsheet now may turn into a row or rows in more than one database table once we move to a relational database structure (e.g. we may track permits and physical generators in separate database tables). We expect as many as another 1000 generators to be described in the process within the next year.

Q. Is the contractor also expected to convert legacy data into new database ?

A. The contractor will be expected to facilitate the one-time import of the current data into the new system.

Q. What is the level of security you currently have and what is expected?

A. We currently keep an Excel sheet on the State's intranet, so it is secure by virtue of relative inaccessibility. We expect a solid effort at security (restricting by login to change data, security against hacking, etc.), but are unfamiliar with exactly how to specify this.

Q. What are forms of Inputs? Any other apart from listed below?

- Online page
- Import using CSV

A. Those two would be sufficient. Importing by CSV may take more than one form (e.g. importing from more than one source in differently ordered CSV).

Q. Can you provide a list of output reports needed?

A. We will work with the selected contractor to refine the list, but here is a start:

- Tables and graphs of generators or permits over time, down-selected by permit status, operating or not, date range, location, interconnecting utility, generating technology, or programmatic participation.
- Pie charts or column/line charts depending on whether the data is a time series or not.
- Table showing the net metered generation capacity by utility, broken out by technology and confirmed operation (or not), compared with the utility's peak load and the statutory required 15% "cap" for net metering.

Q. Can you provide sample of reports?

A. Data of the sort that we draw from the current Excel spreadsheet tool can be seen in the Department's recent net metering report, [http://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/psd/files/Topics/Renewable\\_Energy/Net\\_Metering/Act%2099%20NM%20Study%20FINAL.pdf](http://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/psd/files/Topics/Renewable_Energy/Net_Metering/Act%2099%20NM%20Study%20FINAL.pdf).

Q. What type of hosting is preferred on Heroku (or similar service)?

A. We will work with the contractor to determine the right kind of hosting, based on their recommendation, expected level of use, etc.

Q. Does the vendor has to pay for hosting or State will pay?

A. The State will pay in the long-term. If it makes for an easier process, the vendor may pay (covered under the contract) for the initial setup phase (prior to and through public launch); the State could also pay for hosting directly during the setup phase.